## LOCAL FLORA NOTES

### New Plant Immigrants in the New York Area

Mary Holtzoff

When I began to study the American flora, I was very much surprised to find so many plants familiar to me. I thought at first that the flora of America did not differ from that of Europe.

But soon I found that many plants immigrated to America from the Old World.

During my research work in 1923 I found a new plant of the Umbelliferae which is not reported in any American manual of botany. It is *Falcaria vulgaris L.* Its umbels are thin and white; the umbels and the umbellets bear a few linear bracts; fruits (carpels) are long and thin.

The chief characteristic of *Falcaria vulgaris* is in its leaves: they are three-parted; each part divided into three long linear leaflets, finely and sharply serrate. The plant is tall and very deeply rooted. I found it from 1923 to 1938 in an empty lot in the Bronx, New York City; it was spreading on sandy hills, among weeds; at the same locality some of it grew on sandy plains. Now it is disappearing from that place, but is spreading to the north and east.

*Falcaria vulgaris* is native of northeastern Europe and Asia, where it is fairly common. In Russia, it is found from the Oka River to the Black Sea.

I found two other plants: one, *Cakile maritima L.,* of the Cruciferae, was seen here in New York about 1870 at 40th Street, Manhattan, and disappeared. I found it again in Asbury Park, N. J., in 1920 in a sandy place near the shore, growing with *Cakile americana,* and in 1923-1926 I found it in the eastern part of the Bronx near 172nd Street on small sandy hills along some sidewalks, growing among weeds. It has again disappeared.

*Cakile maritima L.* differs from *Cakile americana* by its leaves, which are thread-like, the flowers, which are pinkish blue, and by the fruits. The fruits are small oval two-jointed pods, pointed at the top, and with two ears at the bottom, one on each side. *Cakile maritima* is native of Europe. It grows in Germany, France and England, and occasionally it is found as far north as Leningrad, Russia. There it is known under the name *Bunias maritima.*

The other plant which I found 1923-1930 is *Ononis repens L.* It was trailing on an empty sandy lot in eastern Bronx, in the vicinity of Westchester Avenue. The single pink flowers at the axils of the leaves are typical of the Papilionaceae, the ten stamens are monodalphous; the leaves are small, single, egg-shaped and finely toothed.

In his Botanico-geographical review, N. Kaufman, Professor of Botany in University of Kiev, Russia, says that plants like Ononis are not easily spread, as their fruit is a one-seeded legume; the seeds are few and too heavy to spread, and they have no adaptations for dispersal. In its own habitat, eastern Europe, Ononis is not plentiful. These new plants were seen by the late Dr. John K. Small and more recently by Mr. E. J. Alexander.

New York City.

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## Some Uncommon Adventives in Berks Co., Pennsylvania

Hans Wilkens

*Eulalia viminea* (Trin.) Kuntze. Very abundant for a distance of about a mile on both sides of the road following Wyomissing Creek, in Wyomissing, a suburb of Reading. It was first noticed in 1938, but must have been established for some time, to judge by the area covered. Unlike the form of this species found in Tennessee this has awned spikelets.

*Digitaria sanguinalis* (L.) Scop., var. *ciliaris* (Retz.) Parl. A form of crab-grass with the sterile lemma fringed with stiff spreading bristles. Along the railroad tracks in Fleetwood, northeast of Reading. First noticed in 1931, it has persisted, but not spread much. The same form was collected along railroad tracks in Washington, D. C., in 1937, and, no doubt, grows in similar situations elsewhere.

*Thlaspi perfoliatum L.* Found in two places, north and northeast of Reading, in 1935. No new colonies have been seen since.

*Erucastrum gallicum* (Willd.) O. E. Schulz. Found on a steep bank along a recently improved road near Centerport, northwest

of Reading, in 1936. It has persisted since. *Diplotaxis muralis* and *Euphorbia dentata* have been found near-by.

READING, PA.

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## Extension of Range of Cladonia floridana

The following paragraph was contained in a letter from Mr. Raymond H. Torrey dated December 9, 1937:

"A curious example of how little is known about some plant ranges, is shown by a discovery I made, along the path described, to the Ice Caves east of Ellenville, N. Y., of great quantities of *Cladonia floridana*. This lichen was first found in Florida, about 100 years ago and named *floridana*, for that reason. Older lichenists accepted that supposed limitation of range. But within the past ten years, with wider collecting by students of the genus, it has been found along the coastal plain, in Maryland, southern New Jersey, Long Island, and about Buzzard's Bay, Mass. But C. M. Robbins, in a paper on the species, in Rhodora, a few years ago, described it as a "coastal plain plant." Yet we now have it from the Shawangunks, at 2,200 feet! Suggests some analogy with the presence of *Corema Conradii*, otherwise a coastal plain plant, on Gertrude's Nose, about 1500 feet."

DANIEL SMILEY

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## Cladonia alpestris Near Lake Shehawken

*Cladonia alpestris* is rare enough in the Torrey area to warrant notice. A single small biscuit about three inches in diameter was found in Scott Township, about one mile north of Lake Shehawken, Wayne County, Pa. The determination has been confirmed by Dr. Evans who reports that it is the only specimen in his collection between the New York area and one in West Virginia. It grows on an open hilltop at an elevation of 2100 feet.

At Lake Shehawken I have also found an extensive colony of *Cetraria islandica*. Its average height here is about two inches. It is in an old unploughed pasture in light shade and open field, facing south-east, and at an elevation of 1850 feet.

W. L. DIX

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